

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 EB-07 /084 W

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R 040730Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7526

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 9315

E.O. 11652: N/A

TALJ: PK, AF, PFOR

SUBJECT: PAK/AFGHAN RELATIONS

REFERENCE: ISLAMABAD 9183

1. ON SEPTEMBER THIRD EMBOFF MET BBC CORRESPONDENT TOWYN MASON WHO, AFTER COVERING NAC IN COLOMBO, IS VISITING ISLAMABAD FOR THATCHER VISIT. MASON HAD INTERVIEWED DAOUD IN COLOMBO ON PAK/AFGHAN RELATIONS (PARA FOUR REFTEL) AND HE PASSED ON FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS FROM INTERVIEW WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN CARRIED ON BBC URDU LANGUAGE SERVICE.

2. WHEN ASKED IF PAK/AFGHAN DIFFERENCES COULD BE RESOLVED, DAOUD REPLIED THAT IF WE ARE ABLE TO SET ASIDE "SENTIMENTALISM", THE DIFFERENCES ARE NOT THAT GREAT. HE ADDED THAT VIEWED REALISTICALLY, THE TWO POSITIONS ARE FAIRLY CLOSE. WHEN ASKED ABOUT GOA AIMS, DAOUD REPLIED AFGHANISTAN MERELY WANTED TO SEE THE BALUCHIS AND PATHANS ABLE TO EXPRESS THEIR "WILL". ASKED IF THIS HAD YET BEEN DONE, DAOUD REPLIED

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THERE HAD BEEN TWO OPPORTUNITIES. THE FIRST WAS THE

"BRITISH-RUN PLEBISCITE" IN 1947. "NEITHER WE NOR THE PATHANS ACCEPTED THE RESULTS." THE SECOND OPPORTUNITY WAS IN 1973 WHEN THE PATHANS AND BALUCHIS WERE REPRESENTED IN THE CONSTITUTION MAKING PROCESS. ASKED IF THEIR PARTICIPATION MEANT THEIR WILL HAD BEEN EXPRESSED, DAOUD REPLIED IT HAD AND WE RESPECT THAT.

3. DAOUD WAS ALSO ASKED IF HE WOULD WELCOME THE RB TARATION OF NAP GOVERNMENTS IN WE FRONTIER AND BALUCHISTAN. HE ANSWERED THE GOA WOULD LIKE TO SEE THAT HAPPEN AND WOULD VIEW IT AS A GENEROUS GESTURE.

4. MASON SAID HE WAS STRUCK BY DAOUD'S VERY POSITIVE AND FORTHCOMING POSITION. HE ADDED HE WAS CAREFUL TO CLOSELY CHECK EACH REPLY WITH DAOUD'S INTERPRETER WHO AFFIRMED MASON HAD UNDERSTOOD THE PRESIDENT CORRECTLY. MASON IS GIVING US COPY OF HIS NOTES WHICH WE WILL POUCH TO ADDRESSEES.
BYROADE

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